

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-20 (Canceled)

21. (New) A composition comprising at least one thermoplastic matrix and particles based on zirconium, titanium, cerium and/or silicon phosphate, wherein at least 50% by number of the particles are in the form of nanometric lamellar compounds exhibiting an aspect ratio of less than or equal to 100.

22. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 21, wherein the particles of nanometric lamellar compounds exhibit an aspect ratio of less than or equal to 50.

23. (New) The composition as claimed in 21, wherein the particles of nanometric lamellar compounds exhibit an aspect ratio of less than or equal to 10.

24. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 21, wherein at least 80% by number of the particles are in the form of nanometric lamellar compounds exhibiting an aspect ratio of less than or equal to 100.

25. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 24, wherein 100% by number of the particles are in the form of nanometric lamellar compounds exhibiting an aspect ratio of less than or equal to 100.

26. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 21, comprising from 0.01 to 30% by weight of particles with respect to the total weight of the composition.

27. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 26, comprising from 0.1 to 5% by weight of particles with respect to the total weight of the composition.
28. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 21, wherein the nanometric lamellar compound is based on zirconium phosphate.
29. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 21, further comprising particles in the form of nanometric lamellar compounds having an intercalation, and/or exfoliation agent.
30. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 21, wherein the thermoplastic matrix is composed of at least one thermoplastic polymer chosen from the group consisting of: polyamides, polyesters, polyolefins, poly(arylene oxide)s, and the blends and copolymers based on these (co)polymers.
31. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 21, wherein the thermoplastic matrix is a polyamide chosen from the group consisting of: polyamides 6, polyamides 66, polyamides 11, polyamides 12, poly(meta-xylylenediamine)s, the blends and copolymers based on these polyamides.
32. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 21, wherein the thermoplastic matrix is a polyolefin chosen from the group consisting of: polyethylene, polypropylene, polyisobutylene and polymethylpentene, their blends and copolymers.
33. (New) The process for the manufacture of a composition as defined in claim 21 comprising the steps of::

a) mixing the particles based on zirconium, titanium, cerium and/or silicon phosphate in the form of nanometric lamellar compounds with monomers and/or oligomers of a thermoplastic matrix, before or during the polymerization stage, and

b) polymerizing the thermoplastic matrix.

34. (New) A process for the manufacture of a composition as defined in claim 21, comprising the steps of mixing the particles based on zirconium, titanium, cerium and/or silicon phosphate in the form of nanometric lamellar compounds and a thermoplastic matrix.

35. (New) The process for the manufacture of a composition as defined in claim 21, comprising the step of mixing the thermoplastic matrix and one composition comprising at least particles based on zirconium, titanium, cerium and/or silicon phosphate in the form of nanometric lamellar compounds and a thermoplastic matrix.

36. (New) The process as claimed in claim 33, wherein the particles based on zirconium, titanium, cerium and/or silicon phosphate in the form of nanometric lamellar compounds exhibit an aspect ratio of less than or equal to 100.

37. (New) The process as claimed in claim 33, wherein the particles based on zirconium, titanium, cerium and/or silicon phosphate in the form of nanometric lamellar compounds are intercalated and/or nonintercalated.

38. (New) An article, obtained by forming a composition as defined in claim 21.

39. (New) The article as claimed in claim 38, being a film, a sheet, a pipe, a hollow or solid body, a bottle, a conduit or a tank.